



Saint John's Spirit

St. John's Episcopal Church • Crawfordsville, Indiana
The Rev. Todd Kleffman, Rector (765) 362-2331

April 2010

www.stjohnscville.org

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Rector's Article

Take Sail with Easter: Ride with the Wind

The Gospels view Jesus' resurrection from many different perspectives. Mark leaves us with an angel, the remarkable news, an empty tomb, and a lot of questions. Luke sets us up for a reflective walk and experiencing the risen Christ in story and the breaking of bread. Matthew gives us a Cecil B. DeMille event with earthquakes, angels rolling away the stone, the fainting of guards, two angels and a parting command to spread the Gospel and make disciples, and with the promise that Jesus Christ, God's Emmanuel (God with us), will always be with us. And then, there is John, our patron saint, who surprises us - and the disciples - with a wide variety of Easter appearances. The tomb is found empty; Mary Magdalene meets Jesus in the garden; Jesus enters the upper room despite locked doors and barred windows, not once, but twice, so that Thomas can share the joy and faith of his comrade; and finally, Jesus surprises the disciples while they are fishing, and offers them breakfast on the shore - a veiled reference to the Eucharist.

During the 50 Days of this Easter season, my request is that all of us narrow our focus to two Easter perspectives in particular: Jesus' entry into the locked room and his gift of breakfast on the shore. In the locked room Jesus breathes on the disciples and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit...". On the shore Jesus feeds his disciples and asks them to feed others through a conversation with Peter. Jesus asks, "Do you love me?" When Peter replies "Yes," Jesus responds with "Feed my sheep." In the locked room, Jesus breathes the wind of the Holy Spirit, the breath of God's new life, into those who would follow him. On the shore, Jesus encourages us to take up a new diet, eating and feeding the world around us with the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation, the very life of Christ himself.

If our lives are to share in Christ's new life of hope, joy, love, and faith, we are called to pitch the sails of our lives into the wind of God's Spirit and let that energy guide and empower us. In order to stay the course, we are reminded to maintain the healthy diet of "sharing in the Apostles' teaching, the breaking of bread, and the prayers." (Book of Common Prayer pg. 304, The Baptismal Covenant). As fellow Church members, we must discipline our lives to maintain the habits of weekly attendance at worship, of daily prayer and feeding on God's word in the Bible, and of gathering together for communal reflection and encouragement, by sharing how we experience the risen Christ in our daily lives. We need to do so, and we must do so, not because Jesus said so, but because Jesus knows that the wind of the Spirit is the only thing that will keep our sails inflated and give us true energy, because the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation is the only diet that can truly feed our souls. Most parents don't let their children live on a diet of candy and junk food - they encourage a balanced diet of healthy foods. Why, then, do we Christians allow our children, and ourselves, to try to subsist on "spiritual junk food"? Let us determine, instead to fill our sails with the Spirit and set a course for lives nourished by the presence of the risen Christ.

Holy Week Schedule

Monday & Tuesday Morning Prayer - 7:20 - 7:45

Maundy Thursday 7pm Holy Communion

Good Friday Service 7pm Passion Reading from John

Easter Sunday:
The Great Vigil of Easter 7:30 a.m.
Easter Brunch 9am.
Principle Easter Service 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education

Greetings from children's Christian Education (also known as Sunday school)!

As a Lenten practice this year, we made small round pots from clay. Each week we put a different object into the pot to remind us of different things to pray for throughout Lent. For example, on the third Sunday of Lent, we put rubber bands into our prayer pots as "a reminder that God always stretches his patience and everyone should do the same for others, even when it isn't easy." For more information about Lenten Prayer Pots go to:

<http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=1247>

Each week we begin our time together with a Chapel service. During this time readers in our group take turns reading a section of the Gospel (or the reading that Fr. Todd will be preaching on). Then we talk about what that section of the reading means to us. We are also learning/practicing the "Our Father" and the Prayer for Forgiveness ("Confession of Sin" BCP, p. 360) so that we can say these prayers along with the congregation.

Sometimes Jerilyn Yerkes comes downstairs during Sunday school time and takes us to the music room where we learn and sing and sometimes march to various rousing songs of joy and praise.

The curriculum we are currently using is especially designed for small churches and is based on the revised common lectionary. In other words the activities we are doing and the lessons we study directly mirror what is happening in the worship service for that particular Sunday. The children seem to appreciate having a familiarity with the reading that Fr. Todd is using for his Sermon and this also seems to help them focus on and understand what Fr. Todd is preaching about when they go up to the big church. This curriculum was recommended by The Rev. Canon Debra Kissinger, the Canon for Transitional Ministries and Leader Development. You can find more information about this curriculum at: Lesson Plans for Small Congregations - http://www.episcopalchurch.org/50534_50556_ENG_HTM.htm

From Meribeth and Mark Kussmaul

Safeguarding God's Children

If you have or plan to have any participation or interaction with children and/or youth programs at St. John's, you must complete the Safeguarding God's Children online training - a child abuse prevention

program required by the Diocese of Indianapolis. There are four modules in the program and they each require about 30-40 minutes to complete. If you have been asked to complete these modules, please do so as soon as possible. If you think you might be working with children and or youth, please contact Meribeth Kussmaul (meribethk@aol.com or 362-8081) so that she can get you registered for the training and explain the process to you.

Pastoral Care

Chas Cooksey is our new chairman of the Pastoral Care Committee. Perhaps you have already received e-mails from him regarding parishioners who are ill. In order to help Chas keep us informed, we have to assist him. Please, if you are aware of anyone who is ill or in need of a helping hand, report it to Chas as well as Todd. Chas may be reached at 765-739-6346. If you would like to lend a hand to parishioners who are ill, let Chas know. He is always looking for volunteers to bring meals or give rides to those in need of assistance.

Youth Group

There's an upcoming weekend "fishing" outing the first weekend in May. Details to come!

Greeting Cards for Shepherds

Thank you from the Shepherds to all who have donated greeting cards for shepherds' use with their flocks. We have received many fine cards for all purposes - get-well wishes, birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays, and also blank notecards. We would be grateful for others, too, so as you spring clean and find items that you do not need, think of us and bring those treasures to the church office. We will send them out into the world!

Confirmation

Confirmation service will be held on April 10th at St. John's in Lafayette. The service is at 11:00am, but confirmands are asked to be at the church by 10:15am.

Please join us on Sunday, April 11th after the 10:30 a.m. service to welcome our newest confirmed members of St. John's. There will be a reception in Whitlock Hall! Stop in for a piece of cake!

Mike Scime's Ordination Process

Mike Scime is almost done! He is in the process for candidacy and has completed interviews & field education. These were his last steps toward ordination. He should be hearing soon about approval from the committee!

Strawberry Festival at the Cathedral

It's time to be thinking ahead to the Cathedral Strawberry Festival in Indy. I've checked with the chairwoman of the event and can report that she is counting on our help again this year. So mark your calendars for June 10th., I'll request that we work the 11 AM to 3 PM shift again this year, and we'll all hope the weather was as nice as it was last year. Last June we took about 15 folks, carpooled and had a great time. If you haven't been there before, give it a try. It's lots of fun, and earns money for our church as well. If you have any questions call Carole Meyer at 362-9262.

Brasilia Mission Trip

A note about the mission trip to Brasilia

Dear Friends in Christ,
Our companion Diocese of Brasilia will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on May 23, 2010. A delegation from the Diocese of Indianapolis will be attending (including Bp. Cate) this celebration and will include a mission trip to Brasilia. There is still space available for individuals interested in participating with this mission. The trip will include visiting several outreach programs throughout the diocese of Brasilia and working side by side with our friends in Christ from Brazil.

Can you please announce this trip in your upcoming bulletin? Dates are May 15 through May 25 (return home 5-26), 2010. For cost details and necessary registration forms, Rev. Grace Burton-Edwards at gburton-edwards@strichardsschool.org. or Marilyn Day at mikeandmarylin@gmail.com. We will be able to accommodate 3 - 5 more individuals, however due to the delay in getting visas from the Consulate of Brazil, expediting any new registration is critical.

Thank you for your help - we would like to have a few more individuals to participate in this life changing experience.

Daughters of the King

On March 21, Sue Fain presented a program on the Daughters of the King. She is a member of the order and is interested in starting a chapter at St. John's.

From the Daughters of the King website:

The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is a spiritual sisterhood of women dedicated to a life of Prayer, Service and Evangelism. We have made a commitment to Jesus as our Savior, and we follow Him as Lord of our lives. We are an Order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the Historic Episcopate. Today our membership includes women in the Anglican, Episcopal, Lutheran (ELCA) and Roman Catholic churches.

For more information contact Sue Fain. You may also visit their website at <http://www.dok-national.org/>

In Other News...

Vern Easterling...

Is temporarily at Ben Hur to speed his recovery from knee surgery. He is in room 59 and will certainly enjoy visitors..

Don Fine

Has returned home from Ben Hur.

Abby Twarek in China

Want to keep up with Abby Twarek's adventures in China? Here's her blog address <http://atwarek.blogspot.com> Ellen and Tom are planning a trip to China to see Abby at the end of April. If anyone would like to write her a note or a card, they would be glad to deliver it.

Help out the Real Presence at Wabash

Chefs (ok, anyone with reasonable culinary skills) are needed to provide Sunday evening meals for 10 - 12 guys at the Real Presence at Wabash. There is a signup in Whitlock Hall. Details are located there. No Ramen noodles, please. They will not meet on Easter and their last meeting is May 3.

Volunteers are also needed to help out with care packages for finals week for the guys. Packages will include cookies/ coffee/ candy/ microwave popcorn/prayers /encouragement. A box will be out the weekend after easter for items to go in the boxes.

Want to Read Ahead?

You can find the daily lectionary readings, including the Sunday readings at <http://satucket.com/lectionary/>

Outreach

Thank you to everyone who donated to the child safety seat drive in March. You made a difference in a number of peoples' lives.

The project for April will be an opportunity to find out more about ERD, The Episcopal Fund for Relief and Development. Many of you may have already contributed to the call for help following the earthquake disasters in Haiti and Chile. The ERD was on site administering comfort and care immediately. A letter from the Bishop of Haiti to the president of ERD follows. You may donate by making a check to ERD and placing it in the offering. Outreach will send the checks to ERD for the parish. Another way is to go to the Indianapolis Diocese website, which can be reached through a link on the St. John's Website.

Dear Mr. Radtke:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am writing to you from the tent city we have set up behind the rubble of College Ste. Pierre, our marvelous senior secondary school that is no more. As you know, we have gathered approximately 3,000 people here alone. Across the land, the Diocese of Haiti has set up at least 21 refugee camps, caring for more than 23,000 people.

In this letter, I wish to make clear to the Diocese of Haiti, to Episcopal Relief and Development and to all of our partners that Episcopal Relief and Development is the official agency of the Diocese of Haiti and that we are partners working hand-in-hand in Haiti's relief and recovery efforts.

I also am announcing in this letter that I am appointing The Rev. Lauren R. Stanley, Appointed Missionary of The Episcopal Church, to work directly with ERD on my behalf. I am asking all partners in The Episcopal Church to communicate directly with Rev. Stanley, so as to keep communications with the Diocese of Haiti open. Rev. Stanley is to communicate and work with ERD on my behalf.

In addition, I am asking that all of our partners in the Presbyterian Church USA work directly with ERD, with Rev. Stanley as the central communication person. PCUSA has worked with us for many years, and we are deeply grateful for their compassion and their commitment to the people of Haiti.

We in the Diocese of Haiti have a vision and a plan for this relief and recovery effort. We know the situation on the ground, we are directing emergency relief to those who need it most, and we already are making plans and moving forward to help our people. Since the earthquake struck, we have been and will continue to work closely with your two representatives here, Ms. Katie Mears and Ms. Kirsten Muth. I have complete confidence in you and your agency.

Finally, I wish to make it plain: I know that many of our partners wish to come to Haiti right now to help. Please tell them that unless they are certified professionals in relief and recovery, they must wait. We will need them in the months and years to come, but at this point, it is too dangerous and too much of a burden for our people to have mission teams here.

Please tell our partners, the people of The Episcopal Church, the people of the United States and indeed the people of the world that we in Haiti are immensely grateful for their prayers, their support and their generosity. This is a desperate time in Haiti; we have lost so much. But we still have the most important asset, the people of God, and we are working continuously to take care of them.

I hope that this letter will help all of us work together to help God's beloved people in Haiti. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. If others have questions or concerns, please ask them to contact you or to work directly with Rev. Stanley.

Faithfully,

Mgr. Jean Zaché Duracin Evêque d'Haïti EGLISE ESPISCOPALE D'HAITI

St. John's has challenged the Lutheran's to top our efforts at the Youth Service Bureau's Annual "Bowling for Kids". Come on out to the Bowling Alley on Sat. morning, April 17th, as we cheer on our team of Lisa and Adam Warren, Sue Fain, and Tom Twarek. We will be collecting donations over the next couple of weeks. Let's top those Lutherans, what do you say!

Outreach Focus Areas for the Year

Month	Project	Contact Person	June	Summer Lunch	Helen Hudson
January	Well Baby Clinic	Carole Meyer	July	Habitat for Humanity	Helen Hudson
February	Family Crisis Center	Barb	August	Innies and Outies	Cindy Smith
Easterling			September	Dayspring	Judy Spencer
March	Youth Svc. Bureau	Jane Gallagher	October	UTO, Cropwalk	Barb
April	ERD	Jane Gallagher	Easterling		
May	FISH Ministries	Sheila Evans	November	Mental Health Gifts	Mike Scime
			December	Reindeer	Ellen Ball
					Judy Wynne

Sunday Servers

Service	Lector	LEM	Crucifer/ Acolyte(s)	Greeters	Altar Guild	Offering Tally
4/4 8am	Elaine Pickering	Randy Pickering	Teresa Anderson			
4/4 10:30	Nancy Bennett	Steve Gillan & Vern Easterling	Paul Moehling/ Jon & Lorinda Hanebuth	John & Betty Culley	Adrienne Ashbaugh, Bethany Fields & Cindy Fields	John Culley & Vern Easterling
4/11 8am	Kitty Haffner	Larry Baumgardner	Kitty Haffner			
4/11 10:30	Kristen Albrecht	Barbara Penney & Meribeth Kussmaul	Mike Lohorn/ Peggy Lohorn & Chas Cooksey	Ellen Ball & Tom Twarek	Carole Meyer & Chas Cooksey	Susan Albrecht & Susie Hildebrand
4/18 8am	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Joe & Ben Green			
4/18 10:30	Helen Hudson	Jane Gallagher & Vern Easterling	Chris Redmaster/Anna Redmaster & Kristen Albrecht	Sam & Susie Hildebrand	CJ Charles & Kim Roberts	Barb Easterling & Ellen Ball
4/25 8am	Jim Suren	Jim Suren	Diane Ault			
4/25 10:30	Barbara Easterling	Larry Baumgardner & Sara Lawrence	Sam Hildebrand/ Joe Green & Ben Green	Kitty Haffner & Jo Tussey	Betty Culley & Meegan Reidy	John Roberts & Tom Twarek

Altar Flower Schedule

April 11, Larry and Nancy Bennett
 April 18, Don and Ruth Black
 April 25, Sam and Susie Hildebrand

If you would like to donate altar bouquets for a Sunday service, please contact Betty Culley, Altar Guild Chairperson.

Calendar

April 1 Maundy Thursday 7pm Holy Communion
April 2 Good Friday 7pm Passion Reading from John

April 4 Easter Sunday
7:30am Vigil/Sunrise Service
9 - 10:15 Easter Brunch (no Sunday School)
10:30am Easter Service

April 13 Liturgy Committee Meeting, 5:30pm

Lenten Events

Morning Prayer - Mondays and Tuesdays 7:20 - 7:50
Afternoon Lenten Bible Study - Tuesdays 1:15 - 2:45
Wednesday Evening Lenten Bible Study - 6:30pm through Lent

Ongoing Events

Sunday - 8 & 10:30am Worship Services
Sunday - 9:15am Christian Education
Wednesday 30-Minute Eucharist from 6pm-6:30pm
Choir Rehearsal - Thursday nights 7 - 8pm

The next Newsletter submissions are due by Wednesday evening, 6:00 p.m. April 21.

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Return Service Requested

Dated Material — please deliver by—April 1